



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No. : 10/686,308  
Filing Date : October 15, 2003  
TC/A.U. : 3722  
Examiner : Willmon Fridie Jr  
  
Confirmation No. : 8252  
Customer No. : 25074

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  
February 23, 2005

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**Response to Office Action**

Sir:

In response to the non-final Office Action dated November 30, 2004  
("Office Action"), please consider the following amendments and remarks for further  
examination of the above-identified patent application:

**Claim Amendments** begin on page 2 of the response; and

**Remarks** begin on page 6.